

Gc
929.2
C46204h
1901235

M. I.

REYNOLDS HISTORICAL
GENEALOGY COLLECTION

ALLEN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY



3 1833 01208 5863

HISTORY AND GENEALOGY

OF THE

CHRISTIAN FAMILY

1643-1850

THE CHRISTIAN FAMILY

By Dorothy Holland
 Certified Genealogist
 P. O. Box 232
 Morrow, Georgia 30260

McChristians long inhabited the Isle of Man. The Mc was dropped about 1600 when John Christian of Uncrigg Castle married Isabella Percy, daughter of the Duke of Northumberland. This Duke of Northumberland was Henry Percy who was the first love of Anne Bolyn. He was later a member of the House of Lords that convicted her.

This John Christian has been thought to have been the ancestor of Gilbert Christian who settled in Virginia by 1732 and whose descendants long inhabited Augusta County, Virginia.

The earliest Christians to Virginia however, were Ann, Christian, Richard, Thomas and William. The Virginia they came to was a wilderness whose boundrys were endless. Settlement, being fraught with the unknown, was often made in parties, viz:

Ann Christian in a party of sixty persons headed by Henry Corbyn and Gerrard Fowkes who had a grant of 30,000 acres in 1658

Christian Christian in a party of six persons headed by William Jacobs who had a grant of 660 acres in Lower orfolk County in 1656

Richard Christian in a party headed by Capt. Sam Matthews who had received a grant of 4,000 acres on the North side of the Rappahannock River in 1643

William Christian in a party of forty persons headed by Mrs. James Harner who had a grant of 2,000 acres in Northumberland County in 1652.

Thomas Christian received two early grants. One on Jan 15, 1657 for 100 acres on the north side of the James River, listing two persons in his party, himself and John Wilkerson. In March of 1662 he received another grant of 100 acres in James City County located near Thomas Young.

It is from this Thomas Christian that most Georgia families can trace their lineage. By 1782, over a hundred years later there were many Christian families in Virginia, most of them descendants of this Thomas.

Thomas Christian was born before 1636. His son, Thomas was born about 1660. He patented land in Charles City County in 1704 and 1706. His will of 1737 in Charles City County names four sons, viz: CHARLES, THOMAS, JAMES AND JOHN. This writer does not know what happened to John. Charles, Thomas and James, however received land grants in Henrico County, that would later become Goochland. Thomas and Charles died there.

JAMES CHRISTIAN

James Christian was born circa 1680 in Charles City County, Virginia. He was the son of Thomas who had died 1737. He received a grant of land in Henrico in 1714 of 382 acres. He is found, however in New Kent County by 1711 with a wife, Ann.

Issue:

1. Judith Christian was born May 21, 1711 in New Kent County
2. John Christian was born about 1715 and married Sarah. The only known child was Mary, born Oct 8, 1735, New Kent County
3. William Christian was born about 1715 and married Sussana. The only children born to them were Ann, born Feb 21, 1735 and Susana, born May 29, 1757, New Kent County
4. James Christian was born about 1718 and married Tabitha. Known children born to them were Ann, Born Dec. 14, 1738, New Kent County, Gideon, born April 30, 1755, and Joseph, Born Sept. 4, 1757, in New Kent County.
5. Gedion Christian was born Feb. 5, 1727 in New Kent County

Other descendants of this family were:

Joel Christian and his wife, Sarah. (Two children born to them in New Kent County, Sarah, Jan. 19, 1757; and Ally, Aug. 26, 1759)

Henry Christian and his wife, Martha had a son, John born in New Kent County, May 25, 1769

John Christian and his wife, Mildred, had son, John Hunt born in New Kent County, Sept 1, 1774.

Andrew Christian was born Hanover County (taken from New Kent County) 17 May, 1761. He moved to Amelia County in 1786 where he married Mary (Polly) Hatton, the daughter of Thomas Hatton in 1788. He moved to Prince Edward County for twenty years. He died Dec. 13, 1833.

CHARLES CHRISTIAN

Charles Christian was born in Charles City County, Virginia about 1680. He was the son of Thomas (who died 1737, Charles City County). Charles received a grant of 400 acres in Henrico County in 1714 and a grant of 672 acres in Charles City in 1717. His brothers James and Thomas also received land grants in Henrico. He married in Charles City County around 1705. He made a gift deed to his son, Charles, Jr. Although it is to be assumed that he had other sons, it is through Charles Jr. that the line is carried to Georgia.

Charles Christian, Jr. was born about 1710 in Henrico County. He married in 1730 to Judith Woodson in Goochland County. (Which had been taken from Henrico in 1728)

Judith Woodson was born about 1712 in Goochland County, Virginia. She was the daughter of Joseph Woodson, born about 1664 and his wife, Mary Jane Woodson. Joseph Woodson died Oct. 1735, Henrico County, Virginia. Mary Jane Woodson was a cousin. Joseph Woodson was the son of Robert Woodson, born 1634, Prince George County and died about 1707, and his wife, Elizabeth Ferris, the daughter of Richard Ferris. Robert Woodson was the son of Dr. John Woodson and his wife, Sarah Winston. Mary Jane Woodson (the wife of Joseph) was the daughter of John Woodson who was born about 1655 at Curles, Henrico County, and died 1700. He married 1677 Mary Tucker who was born about 1659, Henrico County and died about 1710, the daughter of Samuel Tucker and his wife, Jane. John Woodson was the son of Dr. John Woodson and his wife, Sarah Winston.

The Woodson family had come to Virginia before the Christian family, and there numerous intermarriages between these families and their connections in Virginia. The Winstons and the Tuckers are found witnessing deeds, wills, etc. with the Christians from an early period. Descendants of these families also moved to Georgia where they lived in the early counties of Wilkes, Richmond and Elbert.

CHARLES CHRISTIAN

Charles Christian died in Goochland County in 1783. His will named his children.

Issue of Charles Christian and Judith Woodson

1. Son, William Christian. (There was a Will Christian who married Martha Evans ca 1783 in Goochland County and had son John, born 1783)
2. Walter Christian was born Sept 23, 1760. He married July 31, 1783, Patsy Walton, daughter of Thomas Robert Walton. (Names appearing on this marriage license were: Charles Christian, Thomas Walton, Mary Leak, Pheby Murry. Judith Woodson later gave affidavit that she was a witness to this wedding) Walter Christian served in the Revolutionary War and drew a pension. His children were:
 - A. Walter L.
 - B. Wesley E.
 - C. Thomas C.
 - D. Martha
 - E. Elizabeth Taylor who married Mr. Nicholas
3. George Christian. (There appeared in Franklin County, Georgia in 1797 George Christian buying land. There is a records of a marriage in Amherst County, Va. Jan. 16, 1775 of George Christian to Martha Ball, who was the daughter of Henry Ball.)
4. Mourning Christian
5. Lucy Christian married Mr. Woodson
6. Judith Woodson Christian married Mr. Danniell
7. Charles Christian married Sarah Duke. Their son, Charles Hunt was born in Goochland County Nov 18, 1770, and married June 12, 1796, Jenny Huckstep in Amherst County.
8. John Christian married in 1771 Judith Leako
9. Elizabeth Christian married John Humber in 1757
10. Mary Christian married James Grisholm in 1770
11. Turner Christian, b. July 3, 1750, married June 3, 1778, Anna Payne, the daughter of George and Agatha Payne. He served in the Revolutionary War and moved to Elbert County, Georgia before 1800.

The Issue of Charles Christian, Jr., continued

12. Elijah Christian. (There was an Elijah Christian in Amherst County in 1783 with seven white persons and two slaves in his household. An Elijah Christian and wife, Elizabeth appeared in Franklin County, Georgia in 1797 and died there in 1803.)

Also appearing in Goochland County was Drury Christian born about 1737, who married in Goochland, 1757, Lucy Williams. His children were:

1. James b. April 23, 1758
2. Gideon, born Aug. 16, 1760
3. Ann, born March 1, 1764
4. Drury b. Aug 18, 1766

Thomas Christian who was married to Mary Chisholm also lived in Goochland County. Their son, Archer was born 1782

$$c) \quad \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{2} \right)$$

1.1.1

$$\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{2} \right)$$

1.1.2

$$\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{2} \right)$$

1.1.3

$$\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{2} \right)$$

1.1.4

$$\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{2} \right)$$

1.1.5

$$\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{2} \right)$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{2} \right)$$

1.1.6

$$\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{2} \right)$$

1.1.7

1.1.8

$$\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{2} \right)$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{2} \right)$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{2} \right)$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{2} \right)$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{2} \right)$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{2} \right)$$

$$\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{2} \right)$$

THOMAS CHRISTIAN

Thomas Christian was the son of Thomas Christian and was born in Charles City County circa 1680. He married Rebecca New, daughter of Edmund New who died in Goochland County in 1727. Thomas Christian patented 400 acres of land in Henrico in 1714, and in that same years patented 1320 acres of land in Charles City County. He died in Goochland County in 1743. (Goochland had been taken from Henrico County in 1728).

Issue:

1. Edmund Christian
2. Anthony Christian, born June 9, 1724 in New Kent County. He moved to Powhatan County. His children were:
 - A. Lucy, born ca 1768, married George Davis, 1784, Powhatan
 - B. Mary born ca 1779, married William Ogilby 1795, Powhatan County
 - C. Nancy born ca 1772, married John Rodford, 1788, Powhatan County
 - D. Anthony, born ca 1775 married Rebecca Pressard, 1795, Powhatan County
 - E. Dr. Collin, born ca 1777 married Nancy Bates, 1797, Powhatan County
3. Robert Christian married Lucy Bradley, sister of William Bradley. He died in 1748 in Albemarle County. His children were:
 - A. John Christian married Mary Maynard in Charles City County in 1768. He fought with Col. Vance's troops in the Revolution and removed to Franklin County, Georgia after the war with the Bradleys. (His descendants are contained later, under the heading of "Georgia Christians")
 - B. Robert Christian died in 1791 in Amherst County. His children:
 - a. Drury married Mourning Christian in 1785, daughter of Mary
 - b. Robert
 - c. Lucy married in 1784, Amherst County, Drury Bradley, son of William Bradley (who died in Georgia) and removed to Georgia.
 - d. Samuel
 - e. Abner
 - f. Mary
 - g. Martha
 - h. Sophia
 - i. Sally

- C. Drury died in Amherst County in 1783. If he married, his issue are unknown. In his will, however he named his "beloved companion, Elizabeth" and her children, to wit: John Christian Upshaw, Elizabeth Christian Upshaw, Lucy Christian Upshaw, and Sally Christian Upshaw. (Upshaws appeared in Georgia later, connected with the Bradley family)
- D. Elizabeth Christian
- E. Lucy Christian

Other Christians living in Amherst County possibly connected to this line were:

H. Christian who married Gilly Owens in 1779

Henry Christian who married Polly Owens in March 5, 1800

Turner Christian, widower, who married Elizabeth Loak, widow, Oct 6, 1788 with John Christian as surety.

James Christian whose will of 1781 names his brothers John and George

Charles Christian who died intestate in 1761. Among buyers were James Christian, George Stovall and Susannah Christian.

John Christian, cousin of John Coloman, named as Exe of the latter's will in 1778

John Christian, deceased in 1778, leaving minor son, William Brown Christian.

Henry Christian appointed guardian.

Charles Christian and John Christian, brothers, served in the Revolution.

OTHER CHRISTIAN FAMILIES LIVING IN VIRGINIA

Francoes Humphries Christian married Kathorino Chinn, daughter of Ann Chinn in Lancaster County, July 6, 1756. Their issue:

1. Rawleigh Chinn Christian was born in Lunenburg Parish, July 14, 1759. He enlisted from Northumberland County in 1774. He married July 4, 1782, Elizabeth Pope, a widow. He died July 4, 1828
2. Mary Christian was born 20 Oct. 1766
3. Nancy Christian was born 3 April, 1761
4. David Christian was born 2 Oct. 1763.

Descendants from this family are believed to have moved to North Carolina

xx

Dr. Michael Christian received a land grant in Northampton County in 1729. It is known, however, that he built "Westover" by 1725 by the latest. This building is still standing. It is a large two story frame house when he built it with many windows. The present structure has been changed to a certain extent. He married Rose Powell, the daughter of Clark and Kezia Powell. Dr. Michael died in 1735 and his widow married Digby Seymour, by whom she had children. Christian issue:

1. Michael Christian married first, Patience Michael, daughter of Joachim Michale and married second, Elizabeth Barlow, the daughter of Thomas Barlow. Elizabeth died in 1761 and Michael died in 1783. Michael represented Northampton County in the Assembly in 1775. Known issue: Susanna
2. William Christian was born before 1731 and died in 1773. He married Matildah Johnson, daughter of Kelly Johnson and his wife, Beautifilia. Known issue: William

OTHER CHRISTIAN FAMILIES LIVING IN VIRGINIA

Gilbert Christian was born in Scotland in 1690. He moved to Province Ulster November of 1702. He married Margaret Richardson in 1703. In 1726 he moved with John Campbell to Lancaster, Pennsylvania. In 1732 he moved to Staunton, Virginia. His children were:

1. John Christian. His issue:
 - A. Robert born 2 Feb. 1744
 - B. Rebecca, born 2 Feb 1746
 - C. Mary, born 26 Jan. 1748
2. Robert Christian. His issue:
 - A. William, born 12 July, 1741
 - B. Margaret, born 15 Sept. 1743
 - C. John, born 5 Jan. 1746
 - D. Robert, born 26 Jan, 1748
3. Mary Christian married John Moffett in 1730. She married second, James Trimble
4. William Christian married Mary Campbell. He served as a Capt in The Augusta troops. His issue:
 - A. Patrick b. 21 July, 1744, married Elizabeth Robinson
 - B. Gilbert
 - C. Elizabeth married David Carson (she born 10 April, 1748)
 - D. Margaret, born 2 Feb. 1746, married Andrew Russel
 - E. Mary married John Crooly

Robert Christian, son of Robert married Isabell Tiffens at Winchester, Virginia, while on recruiting duty during the Revolutionary War. Their issue were:

1. Isaac Richard, b. Sept 20, 1781
2. John Broom born Sept 1, 1784
3. Isabella, born Dec. 12, 1786
4. Sarah born Nov 7, 1790
5. William, born Aug 21, 1793
6. James, born July 21, 1795
7. Israel, born July 21, 1795

The Issue of Robert Christian and Isabella Tiffens, continued:

8. Archibald Scott, born Oct. 1, 1797

9. Ebonozor, born Dec. 7, 1801

Also living in Augusta County, Virginia during those times was Israel Christian who represented Augusta County in the Assembly from 1758 to 1765.

THE CHRISTIAN FAMILY IN GEORGIA

It was not until after the Revolutionary War that the Christians in Virginia moved to Georgia. The Christian descendants of Georgia today are descended from three men. Turner, born 1750 in Goochland County, John born about 1740, lived in Amherst County, Va., and Elijah born about 1740. Elijah probably came to Georgia from Amherst County.

Of those three the exact identity of Elijah and of his descendants can only be speculated upon. He is first found in Georgia in January of 1801 when he purchased 600 acres on Lamars Creek from Bedford Brown and his wife, Sally. In Feb. of that same year he and his wife, Elizabeth, conveyed to Russell Jones 140 acres on Lamars Creek. He died in Franklin County in 1803, intestate. William Christian applied for Letters of Administration on his estate. Among the buyers of this estate were Patsy Christian, Elizabeth Christian and William Christian.

That Elijah was the son of Charles Christian, Jr. is the most likely supposition. This writer found mention of Elijah in only two instances in Virginia. One was the will of Charles Christian, Jr. in Goochland in 1783 and the other the State Census of 1783 where he appears in Amherst County with seven white persons in his household. This record would indicate five children by that date.

Amherst County had been taken from Albemarle County, which had been taken from Goochland. Charles Christian, Jr. made mention of land he owned in Amherst he bequeathed to his son, Walter. However Amherst was also the home of John Christian who came to Franklin County after 1790.

By 1840 the Christians of Georgia who had participated in the Land Lotteries from 1805 to 1832, had scattered in all directions.

TURNER CHRISTIAN

Turner Christian was born July 3, 1750 in Goochland County, Virginia. He was the son of Charles Christian, Jr. and his wife, Judith Wood. He married June 3, 1778 in Goochland County, Anna Payno (b. 1753) who was the daughter of George and Agatha Payno. He fought in the Revolutionary War and drew a pension in 1832. He died in Elbert County, Georgia between 1830 and 1840. It has been said that he left a Bible naming all his children. This Bible was last known in the possession of a Mrs. Tabor of Augusta, Georgia, but this writer has not learned of the present whereabouts of the Bible nor the contents.

The known children of Turner Christian are:

1. Charles Woodson Christian, born Nov 11, 1778. He married Nancy Ruff in Elbert County in 1807. She died in 1825 and in 1827, he married Mary Maxwell (b. 1810). He was a physician and served in the State Legislature. Some of his children are:
 - A. Washington, b. 1813
 - B. Josephine
 - C. Mary who married Robert P. Hall
 - D. William P. born Dec. 15, 1828
 - E. Charles born Dec. 3, 1830
2. William Payno Christian was born Jan. 17, 1781 in Goochland County, Virginia. He married Sarah Maxwell in Elbert County who was born 1786 and died 1838. Some of his children are:
 - A. William Jackson
 - B. Nancy Turner b. 1811, married John Seymour in 1834
 - C. Thomas
 - D. Marion MacDonald
3. Jesse George Christian was born Dec. 17, 1782 in Goochland County. He participated in the early lotteries in Elbert County, but was gone by 1820.

JOHN CHRISTIAN

John Christian was born circa 1740 in Virginia, the son of Robert Christian. He married Mary Maynard in Charles City County in 1768. He served in the Revolutionary War under Col. Van. He first appears in Georgia when he purchased 287½ acres of land for \$500.00 situated in Franklin County from Barnabas Pace and his wife, Agnes of Elbert County. This deed reads "John Christian of Amherst County, Virginia". He died intestate in Franklin County in 1805. Letters of Administration were first granted Abba, then to William. His wife, Mary died intestate in Franklin County in 1820. The estate of John had apparently not been dissolved, for a joint Administration was granted, with William as Administrator.

Issue:

1. Rouban Christian was born before 1785 in Virginia. At his father's death he was chosen guardian of his younger brother, Rufus. His wife was Mary Ann. He died in Newton County, Georgia in 1839. His issue was:
 - A. John L. Christian
 - B. Mary Christian who married on the 19th of December, 1823 in Elbert County, Elijah W. Christian (b. 1803). Their issue was:
 - a. Mabry b. 1824
 - b. Roubon, b. 1824, married Frances Ann, and died 1865 in Newton
 - c. James b. 1827
 - d. Mary Ann b. 1831
 - e. Roboecca b. 1833
 - f. William b. 1835
 - g. Elijah b. 1837
 - h. Elizabeth b. 1839
 - i. Minerva b. 1841
 - j. Martha b. 1843
 - k. Louiza b. 1848
2. Drouay Christian was born before 1785 in Virginia. He married Frances. He died in Franklin County in 1825. His widow remarried after his death.
 - A. Drouay, Jr. died in 1829 in Franklin County
 - B. Thomas C.
 - C. John A.

3. Rufus Christian was born 1787 in Virginia. He married Mary (b. 1787 in Virginia). At his father's death, being over fourteen years of age he chose his brother Reuben as his guardian. He had moved to Murray County by 1850.
 - A. Lucinda who married James C. Hill
4. Robert Bryant Christian was born March 15, 1770 and died June 16, 1844. He married Edna Lesuer (April 16, 1772-July 4, 1852). He had moved to Randolph County by 1840. Some of his issue:
 - A. Ira was born 1801 in Elbert County and died Dec. 25, 1857. He married three times and had many children
 - B. John H.
 - C. Lindsey
 - D. Drowry, b. 1814, married Sarah. He lived in Cass County. (Later Bartow)
5. Nancy Christian married George Stovall Feb 19, 1807 in Elbert County
6. Gabriel Christian married Harrison Blair, the daughter of John Blair Gilmer in 1808, Elbert County. (Gov. Gilmer's book on early settlers to Wilkes County mentions Gabriel as a preacher no one cared to hear more than once.) Gabriel was in Monroe County by 1840, and had lived in Oglethorpe County in 1820.
7. Daughter who married William Oglesby

OTHER CHRISTIAN IN GEORGIA

Isaac Christian was born 1788 in Virginia. He may have been a son of Elijah or Turner, or the George who appeared in Franklin County in 1796.

Isaac married Mildred (b. 1789) and had moved to Newton County by 1840

Issue:

1. Presley F. Christian b. 1817, married Elizabeth Sappington in 1835, Newton
2. James D. Christian, b. 1820, died 1865
3. Rufus Christian, b. 1815
4. Elijah, b. 1831
5. Isaac, b. 1836

xx

Presley Christian was born 1775-1794. He appeared in Elbert County in 1820 and later made deeds in Newton County. He was on the Early County Tax List in 1846.

Issue:

1. Elijah W. Christian, b. 1803 married Mary Christian, daughter of Roubon
2. Milton Christian, b. 1807 married Mary
3. Hope Hall Christian, Physician, in Early in 1850

xx

The Christians early married in Georgia with the Moriwethers, Barnetts, Gilmers, Keys and the Bradloys. Some of these families had come to Georgia from the counties of Amherst and Albemarle before the Revolution. These families furnished the builders of Georgia.

By 1840 Christians were living in the counties of Cherokee, Elbert, Harris, Henry, Jones, Madison, Moriwether, Monroe, Muscogee, Newton, Oglethorpe, Pike, Randolph, Richmond, Troup and Washington. By 1850 they had moved to other counties in Georgia and many had moved to Alabama and westward.

REFERENCES

History of Augusta County, Virginia

BRINGING YOUR LINE UP TO DATE

If you wish to connect your family to one of these early pioneers, and you know the name of a progenitor living in 1380, I can make you a special offer of \$25.00. This is for the Christian family only.

Please give all particulars: names, dates and places of births, marriages and deaths that you know. You will receive a complete report on all findings and a chart showing your direct line.

DOROTHY HOLLAND HERRIN
Certified Genealogist
P. O. Box 232
Morrow, Georgia 30260

Charles City County Marriages

Lancaster County, Virginia Marriages

Vestry Book, Lunenburg Parish

Northampton Land Records

Colonial Virginia Register

Powhatan County Marriages

Franklin County, Georgia Deeds

Franklin County, Georgia Court of the Ordinary

History of Elbert County, Georgia

Census Records for Franklin, Elbert, Newton, Cass, Randolph, Richmond,
Early, Troup, Harris, Meriwether, Murray Counties in Georgia

Newton County Mills and Marriages

Ira Christian Bible Record

Early County Tax Records

Franklin County Marriages

REFERENCES

History of Augusta County, Virginia
Cavaliers and Pioneers
English Duplicates of Lost Virginia Records
Charles City Wills
Howe Kent County Vestry Book
Virginia Pension Records
Goochland County Wills
The Douglas Register (Goochland County)
The Woodson Family (Genealogy)
Amherst County, Virginia Marriages
Virginia State Census 1782-84
Albemarle County Wills
Charles City County Marriages
Lancaster County, Virginia Marriages
Vestry Book, Lunenburg Parish
Northampton Land Records
Colonial Virginia Register
Powhatan County Marriages
Franklin County, Georgia Deeds
Franklin County, Georgia Court of the Ordinary
History of Elbert County, Georgia
Census Records for Franklin, Elbert, Newton, Cass, Randolph, Richmond,
Early, Troup, Harris, Meriwether, Murray Counties in Georgia
Newton County Wills and Marriages
Ira Christian Bible Record
Early County Tax Records
Franklin County Marriages



